United Nations S/PV.5830

Security Council

Sixty-third year

Provisional

5830th meeting

Monday, 4 February 2008, 10.50 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Arias	(Panama)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Verbeke
	Burkina Faso	Mr. Kafando
	China	Mr. Wang Guangya
	Costa Rica	Mr. Weisleder
	Croatia	Mr. Muharemi
	France	Mr. Ripert
	Indonesia	Mr. Natalegawa
	Italy	Mr. Spatafora
	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Mr. Ettalhi
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	South Africa	Mr. Kumalo
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Ms. Pierce
	United States of America	Mr. Khalilzad
	Viet Nam	Mr. Le Luong Minh

Agenda

The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A.

08-22691 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): As this is the first meeting of the Security Council for the month of February 2008, I should like to take this opportunity to pay tribute, on behalf of the Council, to His Excellency Mr. Giadalla A. Ettalhi, Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations, for his service as President of the Security Council for the month of January 2008. I am sure I speak for all members of the Security Council in expressing deep appreciation to Ambassador Ettalhi for the great diplomatic skill with which he conducted the Council's business last month.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Chad, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Mbaye (Chad) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them photocopies of a letter dated 3 February 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Chad addressed to the President of the Security Council, which will be issued as document S/2008/69.

Following consultations among the members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its grave concern regarding the situation in Chad.

"The Security Council supports the decision of the African Union dated 2 February 2008 strongly condemning the attacks perpetrated by armed groups against the Chadian Government, demanding to put an immediate end to the violence and calling on all the countries of the region to respect the unity and territorial integrity of the member States of the African Union.

"The Security Council in particular welcomes the decision by the African Union to mandate the Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Al-Qadhafi, and President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of Congo, to engage the Chadian parties with a view to ending the fighting and to initiate efforts aimed at seeking a lasting solution to the crisis.

"The Security Council strongly condemns these attacks and all attempts at destabilization by force, and recalls its commitment to the sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity and political independence of Chad.

"The Security Council urges all States in the region to abide fully by the obligations they have entered into with regard to respect for and securing of their common border, in particular under the Tripoli Agreement of 8 February 2006, the Riyadh Agreement of 3 May 2007 and the Sirte Agreement of 25 October 2007.

"The Security Council calls upon the States of the region to deepen their cooperation with a view to putting an end to the activities of armed groups and their attempt to seize power by force.

"The Security Council calls upon Member States to provide support, in conformity with the United Nations Charter, as requested by the Government of Chad.

"The Security Council expresses its concern regarding the direct threat that the combats pose for the safety of the civilian population, including internally displaced persons and refugees.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) and the European Union force (EUFOR Tchad/RCA), whose deployment in eastern Chad and north-eastern Central African Republic was authorized by resolution 1778 (2007), to contribute to the protection of vulnerable civilian populations and to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance.

"The Security Council expresses its concern over the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, United Nations personnel and European Union personnel and material deployed in Chad. It underlines that all parties have a responsibility to ensure the protection of all these personnel and of the diplomatic personnel present in Chad."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2008/3.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.55 a.m.